



KEY POINTS FOR ADDRESSING VISITOR IMPACTS

- ☯ Make sure all staff know how to welcome and deal with visitors through appropriate training, particularly for those who will act as guides; enforce regulations in a friendly manner.
- ☯ Make available codes of conduct for particular activities, and ensure that MPA personnel are familiar with them and can explain why certain activities and behaviors are not allowed.
- ☯ Provide details on when and under what circumstances photography is appropriate and how visitors can best interact with local communities.
- ☯ Ensure impact and benefits of visitors are monitored; bring the LAC approach into the planning framework for the MPA if appropriate; if doubt exists that damage may be occurring due to visitors, use the precautionary approach and limit numbers.
- ☯ Provide activities to involve visitors and opportunities for them to help either financially or in kind; provide a guest book and ask for suggestions.
- ☯ If appropriate, consider developing a Visitor Risk Management Program as part of the emergency procedures for the MPA.

Source: Managing Marine Protected Areas: A Toolkit for the Western Indian Ocean